



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

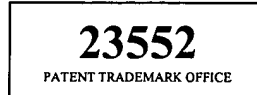
Applicant: AKIYAMA et al Examiner: Unknown
Serial No.: 10/600,089 Group Art Unit: Unknown
Filed: June 20, 2003 Docket: 10873.685USD1
Title: OPTICAL INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM, AND METHOD AND APPARATUS
FOR RECORDING/REPRODUCING INFORMATION THEREON

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 13, 2004.

By: 
Name: Jennifer Holden

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



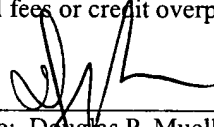
Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 4 References
- ☒ Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By: 
Name: Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No.: 30,300
DPM/jh



Serial No. 10/600,089

PATENT

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By: 

Name: Jennifer Holden

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

Applicant hereby brings attention to the Examiner that they have a commonly assigned co-pending applications:

Serial No. 09/807,865, filed April 19, 2001

Serial No. 09/786,877, filed March 12, 200

Serial No. 10/600,090, Filed June 20, 2003

and the references listed were cited in the afore-mentioned case. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98 (2) (iii), Copies of the specification, claims and drawings for this co-pending matter were submitted in the parent application Serial No 09/812,533, filed March 20, 2001.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)):

Japanese reference 11-162031 corresponds with US 6,266,299.

Japanese reference 10-233019 corresponds with US 6,052,465.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

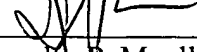
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

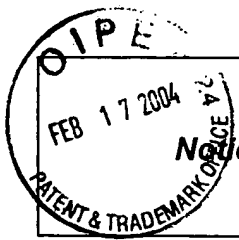
Dated: February 13, 2004

By: 

Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300

DPM/jh





Notice of References Cited

Application/Control No.

09/786,877

Applicant(s)/Patent Under
Reexamination
IRIE ET AL.

Examiner

Thang V. Tran

Art Unit

2653

Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
	A	US-6,550,009	04-2003	Uranaka et al.	380/229
	B	US-6,633,853	10-2003	Oshima et al.	369/272
	C	US-6,519,213	02-2003	Song et al.	369/44.26
	D	US-			
	E	US-			
	F	US-			
	G	US-			
	H	US-			
	I	US-			
	J	US-			
	K	US-			
	L	US-			
	M	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
	U	
	V	
	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	6,052,465	Apr. 2000	Gotoh et al.				
	6,266,299	July 2001	Oshima et al.				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	10-233019	June 1999	Japan			See IDS	
	11-162031	Sept. 1998	Japan			See IDS	
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE